



*Founded 1875*

## *The Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station*

123 HUNTINGTON STREET, P.O. BOX 1106, NEW HAVEN, CONNECTICUT 06504

*Putting Science to Work for Society  
Protecting Agriculture, Public Health, and the Environment*

### **PLANT DISEASE DIAGNOSTICIAN**

The Department of Plant Pathology and Ecology at The Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station is seeking a full-time diagnostician at the level of Agricultural Technician I. The primary responsibility of this position is to support all aspects of The Plant Disease Information Office (PDIO), a full-service plant disease diagnostic laboratory serving private and commercial Connecticut stakeholders. Responsibilities include, but are not limited to: handle phone inquiries and walk-in requests for diagnostic assistance; receive and log-in plant samples; evaluate and process samples by performing diagnostic tests or procedures utilizing molecular, serological, biochemical, and traditional diagnostic methods; and prepare written responses describing diagnoses and appropriate management strategies. The successful applicant should have a general knowledge of the taxonomy, isolation, and identification of major plant pathogens, experience and good understanding of general laboratory techniques, familiarity and experience with specialized molecular-biological diagnostic equipment and methods, and skills with plant and weed identification, plant care, and culture. Additional responsibilities and duties include plant disease database management and participation in the National Plant Diagnostic Network (Northeast Division), including data entry into the network's database. The diagnostician will assist the Plant Pathologist in charge of the PDIO and will be expected to assist with outreach programs by contributing to publications, articles, and web resources and by giving presentations to horticultural groups. Facilities in the Department and at the Experiment Station include fully equipped plant pathology and molecular biology laboratories, greenhouses, and research farms. The starting salary is \$42,467/yr and includes competitive medical and dental benefits.

**Qualifications:** Applicants must have at least a bachelor's degree in Plant Pathology or a closely related field with at least 3 years of appropriate experience. **Preferred Qualifications:** Masters in Plant Pathology/Microbiology with at least 1-2 years of experience in plant disease diagnostics. The ideal applicant will be a responsible, motivated individual with excellent organizational, interpersonal, and oral and written communication skills.

Interested candidates should submit electronically: 1) *Résumé/Curriculum Vitae*; 2) a letter of application, including brief statement of interests and/or experience with plant diagnostics; 3) university transcripts; and 4) the names and contact information for three references. Please provide reprints of recent publications, if applicable. These should be sent electronically to: Dr. Sharon M. Douglas, Head, Department of Plant Pathology and Ecology, The Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station, 123 Huntington Street, P. O. Box 1106, New Haven, CT 06504. Email: [Sharon.Douglas@ct.gov](mailto:Sharon.Douglas@ct.gov). Website: [www.ct.gov/caes](http://www.ct.gov/caes). Review of applicants will begin immediately and will continue until a suitable applicant is found.

(continued on next page)

Phone: (203) 974-8500      Fax: (203) 974-8502  
Toll Free: 1-(877) 855-2237  
[WWW.CT.GOV/CAES](http://WWW.CT.GOV/CAES)

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The Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station is the nation's first state Agricultural Experiment Station, founded in 1875. The main campus is located in New Haven, with a 75-acre research farm in Hamden, a satellite research facility and farm in Windsor, and a research farm in Griswold. This is a state-supported scientific research institution dedicated to improving the food, health, environment, and well-being of Connecticut residents.

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Women and minorities are encouraged to apply.*

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